

To: State Directors of Vocational Education
State Trade & Industrial Supervisors

From: Shannon Vizzini-Cappert
Administrative Director

Date: February 24, 2006

Re: Collision Repair & Refinish Certification Standards Update

Recently NATEF and ASE have begun the process to revise and update the certification standards for collision repair & refinish technician training programs. A committee of industry and education experts convened in February 2006 to begin this process by making recommendations for changes to the task lists, tools & equipment lists, program hours, percentages HP-I and HP-G tasks, and instructor qualifications. All proposed changes will be presented to the NATEF Trustees and the ASE Board of Directors for approval at their meetings in May. We anticipate that the new standards and certification materials will become available in July 2006.

During this transition period, anyone who would like to certify or recertify their program under the current (2003) standards must meet the following requirements:

- 1) be approved for an on-site evaluation by December 30, 2006. (*The application must be received by NATEF by 11-30-06 to allow time for processing.*)
- 2) meet all standards for ASE certification by June 30, 2007. (The on-site visit should take place in early spring to allow for processing time as well as time to make any necessary improvements.)

Failure to meet these deadlines WILL necessitate that the program begin the certification process again under the 2006 standards.

The 2003 collision certification manuals will only be available as long as current supplies last, or until May 30, 2006, whichever comes first. Orders received after May 30, or after supplies run out, will be held until July and programs will be sent the new 2006 certification materials.

Should you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the NATEF office at 703-669-6650.